

REMARKS

Entry of this amendment, in supplement to the preliminary amendment filed on October 13, 1999, is respectfully requested.

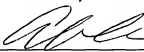
By the present preliminary amendment, additional method claims 9-16 are presented for examination.

If the Examiner believes that there are any other points which may be clarified or otherwise disposed of, either by telephone discussion or by personal interview, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (501.35437VX1), and please credit any excess fees to said deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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